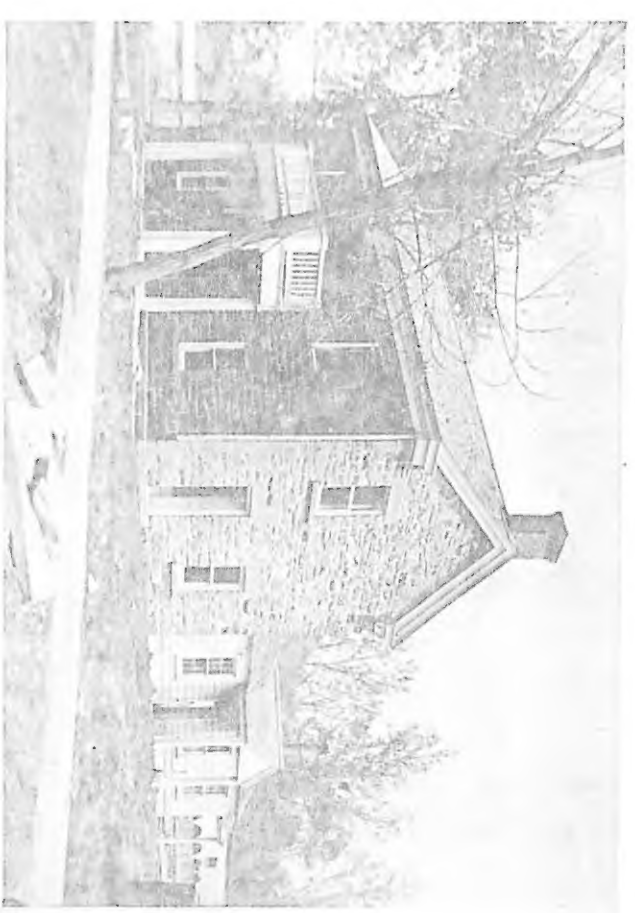




(1) *Permelia Jane Lott*  
(2) *Ruth Woolley*



*Ruth*



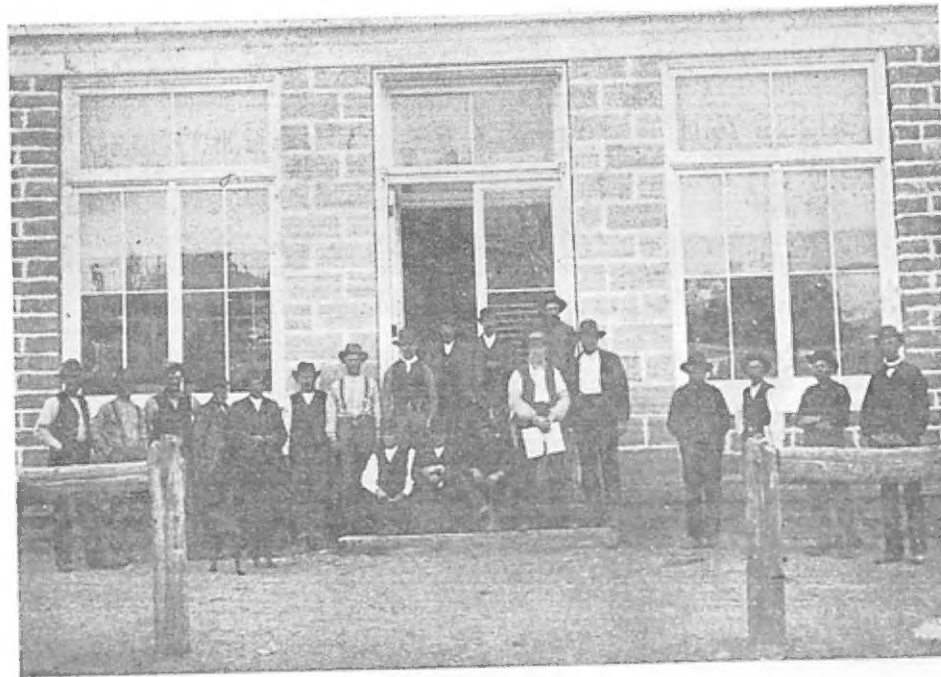
*Abram Hatch Home*

*Hatch*

sion rather than a desire to alleviate hardship caused by exorbitant prices. Thus it was that Abram Hatch and John W. Witt, both merchants at the beginning of the cooperative period, pooled their stock into a larger store and called it the Heber Co-op. This business was carried on in the south room of President Hatch's home on Main Street.

Both Midway and Charleston were scenes of similar ventures. In Midway the co-op was directed by David Van Wagonen and in Charleston by Nymphas C. Murdock.

The story of the Charleston Co-op is an interesting



A. Hatch & Co.

Front of A Hatch & Co.; Standing: James McNaughton, John Bell, James Murdock, Chas. Shelton, William Brett, Thomas Clothworthy, Heber Rasband, Barney Riley, Ludwig Anderson, Joseph Hatch, Sr., Joseph Hatch, Jr., John Witt, Isaac (Babe) Cummings, Bishop Henry Clegg, Alex Fortie, Thomas Watson, Dr. Glanville. Sitting: Heber Crook, Brigham Witt, James Rasband.

and, in some details, romantic illustration of the growth of mercantile trade. The store began in a large dark box in Nymphas C. Murdock's kitchen.<sup>10</sup> Murdock was one of the early valley settlers, and the first bishop of the LDS Church in Charleston Ward, settled on a ranch about one and one-half miles south of the present Charleston townsite. He and five or six neighbors formed a partnership to establish a merchandise store. The amount of grain which they subscribed was fifty dollars' worth of grain which they hoped to be sold before the goods with which to stock the store were purchased.<sup>11</sup> The business was carried on in the kitchen of the bishop's ranch for twelve years until 1878 when a site in the central part of Charleston was purchased and here the store was built. In 1890 the Charleston Co-op was incorporated with a capital stock of ten thousand dollars and dollars divided into two thousand shares of five dollars each.

In the new locality the Charleston Co-op grew into a county institution. A creamery and lumber mill were established in connection with it. Business headquarters for the milling and creamery business were at the store and this meant that those who logged lumber and sold milk ran accounts at the Co-op.<sup>12</sup> Even school was held in the upstairs room by Mrs. Ellen Baker, who had come from American Fork.

The store's large stock of merchandise included hardware; paint and oil; glass; wallpaper; furniture; clothing; stocks of shoes for men, women, and children; goods and notions; ladies' and children's dresses; overalls and work shirts; drugs; groceries and household goods.<sup>13</sup> In time trade grew so large that three additional sections were added to the original building.

<sup>10</sup>Edith North, "Business in Charleston," MSS, (Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Historical Collection, Heber City, 1952), p. 1.

<sup>11</sup>*Wasatch Wave*, December 21, 1906, p. 12.

<sup>12</sup>James Ritchie, "Charleston," MSS, (Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Historical Collection, Heber City, 1952), p. 1.

<sup>13</sup>North, *op. cit.*, p. 2.

*Chas. H. H. H.*



FIRST WASATCH COUNTY STAKE PRESIDENCY



President Abram Hatch



Thomas H. Elder  
First Counselor

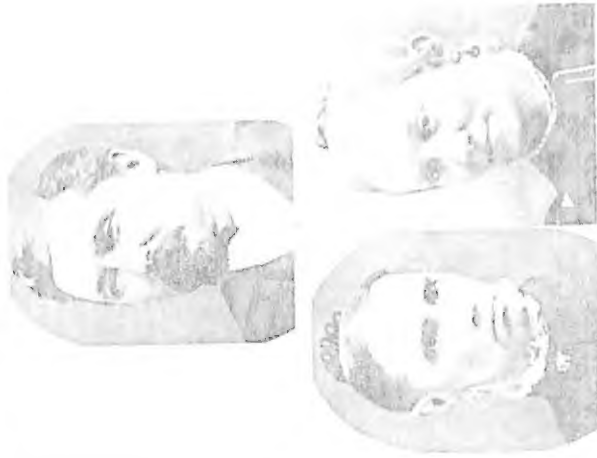


Henry S. Alexander  
Second Counselor



**ABRAM HATCH, PERMELIA  
JANE LOTT HATCH AND  
RUTH WOOLLEY HATCH**

Abram Hatch was born January 3, 1833, in Vermont, son of Hezekiah and Aldura Sumner Hatch. He married Permilia Jane Lott in 1852 at Lehi. She was born Octo-



ber 2, 1832, in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, daughter of Cornelius and Permilia Darrow Lott. She died December 2, 1880, leaving two sons, Joseph and A. C., and three daughters, Minnie, Jane and Lucy. Two other children, Charles and John, died in infancy. Married Ruth Woolley in 1862. She was a daughter of Bishop Edwin Woolley of Salt Lake City, and was 25 at the time of marriage. She was the mother of six children, Mary Ann, LePryle, Edwin D., Vermont, Aldura and Lucinda.

Abram Hatch, first stake president of Wasatch Stake, was a grandson of a Revolutionary War veteran, Jeremiah Hatch, who came to Plymouth Rock in 1793. His mother died while he was a boy, and his father died in 1841. Abram, with his two brothers and two sisters, Jeremiah, Lorenzo, Adeline and Elizabeth, moved to Illinois to live with grandparents. The children were left considerable money by their father, but it was entrusted to an uncle who used it for himself, leaving the youngsters to do for themselves. Abram had always desired an education, but it was not possible for him to obtain it. When his grandparents died he became a cabin boy on a Mississippi River boat and later cut cordwood for a living. He worked as an apprentice a store and learned merchandising. He

came to Utah in 1850, and was married to Permilia Lott in 1852. They built a cabin by Utah Lake and started a farm and small merchandise business in Lehi. He also hauled freight and brought companies of immigrants back to Utah, making 11 trips across the plains. In 1861 he was called on a mission to England, leaving his wife and youngsters at home. His wife managed the farm, store and also ran freight teams to the Missouri River to obtain the needed supplies. She sold provisions to Johnston's Army. When her husband's mission was completed she was able to send him \$10,000 in gold dust to four Europe and return home. He used most of the money to purchase merchandise enroute home. He bought a threshing machine, the first to come to Utah, and also stocks for the store. Two years after his return he was called by President Brigham Young to move to Heber and serve as bishop of the ward. He later became the first stake president and served 33 years in that position. Active in civic affairs, he was probate judge six years and served in the territorial legislature 23 years, authoring many worthwhile pieces of legislation. He also established a fine merchandising business in Heber and was known as a farmer and banker. His first home in Heber was built on the corner of First North and Main. He later built a large sandstone home east of his mercantile business. His first wife died at the age of 48 and was buried according to her wishes, in Lehi, by the graves of two small sons. He married Ruth Woolley in 1862. She was then 25 years old, and bore him six children, four daughters and two sons. She was a lovely, talented young lady, with a fine singing voice, and was a great help to him as he grew older. He died in Heber on December 2, 1911, and was buried in Heber City Cemetery. It was his wish that he be buried in the county he had helped build and where he had lived so long.